

# Camden Cycling Campaign Meeting



**Monday 19th March 2018**  
**Primrose Hill Community Centre**

## Minutes

### Committee Meeting

**Attending:** Sean Howes(Chair), Steven Edwards (Minutes), John Chamberlain, Berwyn Rutherford, George Coulouris, Jean Dollimore, Helen Vecht, Simon Pearson

**Apologies:** Meade McCloughan, Geoff Stilwell.

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#### **1. Minutes from 19th February meeting accepted**

#### **2. Matters Arising from February meeting**

- Facebook Page discussion over permission/authority for posting/updating. John and Helen noted that they are now able to post. Helen pointed out that our address needs to be updated.
- we congratulated Geoff - on a good report of Docklands ride

#### **3. Local elections and discussion of Ask**

- it was agreed not to go ahead with a hustings due to lack of a venue, task of coordination - getting candidates together in one place etc
- Stephen Crosher (Lib Dems) - had reached out (to Sean) asking for help with local policy
- We will draft and send out a local Ask to all party leaders and relevant current cabinet members, to incorporate LCC's Ask for a Liveable Neighbourhood bid (see main meeting).

#### **4. Discussion re new rules on data (harbouring) - due from May**

- LCC had asked for groups to let them know what lists we still retain -
- they are due to confirm if we are ok with regard to this.
- We've always told people they can unsubscribe.
- Issue - maybe specifics - the news we'll give you -
- fundraising etc
- LCC to get back to us soon
- Need to put private email list into Mail Chimp
- (Steven to forward lists of subscribers/members/supporters to John)

#### **5. TfL Draft Budget 18/19 for one year.**

- Sean recommended that we read through this document (not time for this here).
- Noted that Sadiq Khan has two years left in office

## **6. Route Plan Role Cycle Maps**

- To be used for bike week
- Dermott Hannelly is sponsoring a City Cycling Hub
- A new 'underground' style map of QWs and CS routes has been published.
- Sean felt this was good for route-planning but less so for way-finding

## **7. LN for Holborn - Jean gave a presentation in main meeting**

## **8. AOB**

- John reported that the Gospel Oak School , Healthy Streets engagement had been very worthwhile
- CCC's Cycling Vision (discussed in the February meeting drawn up by Jean, George, John) was presented to council officers at March Quarterly meeting. They will bear it in mind when writing Camden's new Transport Strategy
- Need to contact Bob Warnock (Heath superintendent) for date of meeting covering 10 year plan and cycle routes on Heath. Who is actioned to do so?

# Main Meeting

**Attendance:** as above. As above + Dave Simms

## 1. Talk from Joseph Seal-Driver general manager of Ofo dockless bikes

to talk about how we (as part of LCC) might work together.

Has a background in electric car club but took the opportunity to swap four wheels for two.

Ofo began in 2014 in Beijing with four students coming up with the idea for mechanised bike lock (after their own bikes were repeatedly stolen).

There are now 10 million worldwide, with China - once 'kingdom of the bike' - gradually retrieving that status, as Ofo bikes contribute to a big drop in its congestion problems.

In its summertime peak, China is registering 32 million rides per day.

The Ofo app relies on bluetooth technology and rides are charged at 50p for 30 minutes, with a £5 daily cap once a customer registers, they use a smartphone to scan the bar code and unlock the bike. removing the need for fiddling at docking stations

The service currently operates in increasing numbers of cities across the UK and in boroughs across the capital including Hackney, Redbridge and Islington. It is hoped they will be coming to Camden soon. A meeting with Camden councillors was due last Friday to discuss their introduction to the borough.

When rivals Obike were launched they were kicked out of some boroughs, since they had not obtained permission beforehand. Ofo only introduces their bikes once they have received permission. However the service only works within the boundaries of boroughs in the scheme.

Bikes can be left anywhere within a 'geofence' delimiting the boroughs in which the scheme operates. Users will be given incentives to leave bikes in particular on street hubs such as ??? areas ( price reduction for using specific drop off locations).

The locks have an alarm which bleeps if attempts are made to steal the bike; while a 30 minute response is given to report a bike as stolen.

When some bikes get 'privatised' i.e. left in a private garden to enable repeated uses, a text message is sent to remind that person to leave the bike in one of the allocated public places.

Joe stated that Ofo's ambition was to provide enough bikes be able to cycle anywhere - there currently are not enough of the bikes around - e.g. if you pop to a local shop, you are unable to lock it in order to be sure of using it for a return journey.

The bikes themselves having solid tyres, internal cables and hub brakes and last around two to three years. 20,000 are due to arrive in the UK from China/ Taiwan soon, although Joe felt it would be better if they were actually made in the UK and in the same operating region.

The boundary ('geofence') of participating boroughs is depicted by a green line on a map shown in the OfO App , with text messages sent to inform you if straying outside of the zone.

More women are using Ofo than Mobike.

Ofo work to share data with local authorities in order to decide on where bikes are most used in order to inform decisions about where they are provided - which roads and at what times etc.(This information is 'anonymised'). Surveys of journeys are carried out also.

The options for updating technology in order to be able access the bikes without relying on a smartphone are being considered.

## **2. Discussion re Ask for local elections**

We will ask parties to sign up to our Ask which is based on the Cycling Vision (w/ contribution from John Hartley, London Living Streets rep).

Points:

- One third of all car trips in Camden to be replaced by a walking or a cycling trip by 2022 and half by 2026 1/3 car trips can be reduced, 70% are under 5kms - so reasonable target is for approx 41% to remain
- Cycling Network \_ we will ask councillors to adopt a policy rather than just "work towards a network" . Need to be 400m (mesh density) i.e. distance from where people live to the nearest point of the network.
- Camden to submit an LN bid for an area in Camden

Berwyn and others suggested adding something about obesity and Active travel.

See the final version of the Ask at:

<http://camdencyclists.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Council-Elections-2018-ask-from-CC-and-LLS.pdf>

## **3. Talk on CCC's ideas for an LN in Holborn**

[Slides of G and J's presentation](#)

## **4. New committee member**

John invited Dave Simms to join the committee and we were pleased that he agreed.

**Next Meeting: Monday 16th April at PHCA. Chair: John Chamberlain**